

1 GORDON CASPER,  
2 having been first duly sworn, was examined and  
3 testified as follows? Division.

4 MR. IAVARONE: Q Will you state your name,  
5 please?

6 A Gordon Casper. Attorney.

7 Q Will you spell your last name?

8 A C-a-s-p-e-r.

9 Q And what is your address?

10 A 404 West Jackson, Springfield, Mo.

11 Q Mr. Casper, you understand you are testifying  
12 here today under a grant of immunity but that grant  
13 of immunity does not cover your perjuring yourself  
14 before this Grand Jury today, you understand that?

15 A Correct.

16 Q You understand that?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Mr. Casper, you administered the test, in-  
19 surance broker's test in Chicago on March 16, 1973?

20 A I did.

21 Q And who accompanied you to Chicago?

22 A Mr. Preer.

23 Q Spell his name.

24 A P-r-e-e-r.

*DX 2nd*

1 Q And what is his position?

2 A He's an examiner for the Insurance Department  
3 Examining Division, Examination Division.

4 Q And how many testing sessions did you have  
5 that day? ...

6 A Two, morning and afternoon.

7 Q When the afternoon session concluded what  
8 did you do? ...

9 A Well, about 4:00, 4:30 we packed the bags,  
10 the papers in a bag and, briefcase type bag, and  
11 gone to the train. We went back to Springfield on  
12 the five something, got in Springfield 8:00 or 8:30.

13 Q Did you go to the office of the Department  
14 of Insurance in Springfield?

15 A No, we take the papers home with us and  
16 returned them to the office on Monday morning.

17 Q Both you and Mr. Preer had test papers with  
18 you? ...

19 A We each took a bag, I think that day --  
20 sometimes one of us took both, sometimes the other  
21 one, but I remember we both took a bag.

22 Q What tests did you have?

23 A I had the morning papers.

24 Q Mr. Preer had the afternoon papers?

1 A Right.

2 Q Now, that test was given on a Friday, is  
3 that correct?

4 A That's true.

5 Q Over the weekend did anyone contact you about  
6 the tests that were given on the 16th?

7 A Yes. On Sunday morning Mr. Willis called me,  
8 Mr. Robert Willis, now, he was formerly an examiner  
9 and asked if Mr. Daley had taken the test and I said  
10 I'm sure he did but I had the papers there, had a  
11 list of papers or list of names that took the examin-  
12 ation. I said yes he did.

13 Q What time of the morning was this?

14 A I don't know, 10:00 or so.

15 Q After you told Mr. Willis that William Daley  
16 had taken the test what did he say?

17 A Well, he said, "I like to come over and see  
18 you", so he did.

19 Q What time did he arrive?

20 A Oh, before noon.

21 So, when he did come he said could he look  
22 at the paper, I said okay. So, he looked at the  
23 paper and said, "Well, several questions he didn't  
24 answer", he said "I'd like to do a favor for a

1 friend of mine and fill them in."

2 I said alright, because I felt that it  
3 had been done previously by other people and also  
4 I felt Mr. Willis got kind of a raw deal when they  
5 let him go, they gave no real explanation of why  
6 they let him go other than he wasn't doing his  
7 job, which seemed kind of ridiculous, been doing  
8 it for four years. ... before he went to see test?

9 Q Now, when Mr. Willis said he was doing it  
10 for a friend, did he say which friend?

11 A Yes, he did. He said it was for Senator  
12 Partee.

13 Q What did he say in relation to Senator  
14 Partee?

15 A He said, at that time, that he was nego-  
16 tiating with the Senator about getting another  
17 job and he had more or less promised he'd do what  
18 he could on this particular paper and he was no  
19 longer there, he came to me.

20 Q Mr. Willis said that he promised Senator  
21 Partee he'd do whatever he could for this paper?

22 A That's right.

23 Q Did he say when he had talked to Senator  
24 Partee, was it after the test or before the test?



1 A. I think shortly after he got fired he said  
2 the Senator talked to him.

3 Q Didn't Mr. Willis say they were concerned about  
4 the test?

5 A Yes.. He said he thought it could be taken  
6 care of.

7 Q Mr. Willis seemed to know that Mr. Daley had  
8 done poorly on the test before he went to the test?

9 A No, I don't believe so but he just wanted  
10 to check it and make sure.

11 Q After Mr. Willis filled in the test --

12 A Right.

13 Q -- you saw him?

14 A Yeah, in my kitchen.

15 Q All right. After he filled in the answers  
16 what did he do?

17 A He gave me back the test and I put it in  
18 the bag -- well, he checked it first and figured  
19 that he had a passing grade, so, we put it back in  
20 the bag and I took it in the office Monday morning.

21 Q When did you grade that test?

22 A I would say sometime that week, maybe it  
23 was later, I'm not sure, there's 400 papers involved  
24 and I think we have another trip down south that week,

1 maybe I didn't get to them until the next week.

2 Q When was the next time you talked to Mr.  
3 Wills about this test?

4 A I don't really know. I know that he said  
5 he told the Senator that it was all taken care of.

6 Q You remember when he told you that he had  
7 talked to Senator Partee?

8 A Probably the following week, I think.

9 Q Did he say he talked to the Senator in  
10 person or on the phone?

11 A He didn't say but I think it was probably  
12 on the phone, I'm not sure.

13 Q Then, after that, when was the next time  
14 you saw Mr. Wills?

15 A Oh, I don't know, I seen him from time to  
16 time. We are still friendly, still get together  
17 once and awhile.

18 Q When the newspaper story concerning the  
19 test broke in the paper this year did you talk  
20 with Mr. Wills about the test?

21 A Yes, we did talk.

22 Q What did you talk about?

23 A Well, we felt that there was nothing to  
24 worry about.

Q Why is that?

A Well, that the test had been graded and -- well, in spite of the difference in handwriting, I didn't think about that, but it looked pretty much like Mr. Daley's handwriting.

Q What did Mr. Wills say in relation to the test?

A Well, he had experienced some concern, naturally, so, he talked to the Senator again.

Q And when was this?

A I don't know, that came up a year later, didn't it?

Q Yes.

A After the examination.

I don't know, seven, eight months, whenever it hit the newspapers.

Q What did he talk to the Senator about?

A He said what do we do, I guess, and the word was just take it easy, play it cool.

Q What do you mean by play it cool?

A Just go along with the tide and say that things were alright.

Q Did Mr. Wills tell you that the Senator told him that?

1 A Yes.

2 Q All right. What occurred when you and  
3 Mr. Willis received subpoenas to appear here before  
4 this Grand Jury?

5 A Well, then, he did get worried.

6 Q How did you get worried?

7 A I was bothered because my initials were  
8 on the paper and I graded it.

9 Q Did anyone from the Senator's office come  
10 to contact you?

11 A No, not me.

12 Q Did they contact Mr. Willis?

13 A I believe so, but I am not sure.

14 Q What did Mr. Willis say?

15 A He said the same thing as before, just take  
16 it easy and deny everything.

17 Q He told you to deny everything?

18 A Yeah.

19 Q Well, where was that that he told you to deny  
20 everything?

21 A Well, either coming up on the plane or prior  
22 to that.

23 Q You came up on a plane?

24 A Yeah.

11/13

1 Q Did you talk about this on the plane?

2 A Uh huh.

3 Q What was the conversation on the plane?

4 A Well, the conversation was hopefully that  
5 we had nothing to worry about and just tell a story,  
6 that I graded it and despite the different ink, this  
7 happened many times because people don't answer the  
8 questions consecutively and they jump around and  
9 very possibly he could have run out of one color and  
10 used another.

11 Q After you and Mr. Willis testified before the  
12 Grand Jury did Mr. Willis mention the test either on  
13 your way home or while you were here in Chicago?

14 A Yeah, he mentioned, we both mentioned it.  
15 It was a little rough in front of the Grand Jury  
16 and thought that we had come out all right. I said  
17 I certainly didn't want to lie and they didn't  
18 think I had.

19 Q Did you talk to Mr. Willis when he was, soon  
20 after he was indicted?

21 A Yes, I did. I made it a point to go over  
22 to his house. He's been recently married and I  
23 met his wife once or twice.

24 So, I felt that if that had happened to



him I'd probably g called back again.

So, I tried to prevail upon him to change his story, admit this, that if I was called I would have to tell the truth that I saw him write the questions in and let him do it.

Q What did Mr. Willis say?

A Well, he said he was going to talk to his lawyer. 3 last Monday?

Q Did he tell you the name of the lawyer?

A No, he did know the name of the lawyer himself.

Q Who got him his lawyer?

A I assume, and I am pretty certain, it was Senator Partee.

Q ~~Did~~ did Mr. Willis say if Senator Partee was paying for his lawyer? is even larger, I go

A No, he did not.

Q Is Mr. Willis in a position to afford an attorney?

A His wife has a lot of money.

Q Now, after you told Mr. Willis that you were going to tell the truth --

A Yeah.

Q -- he said he was going to get back to the

Senator?

A Right.

Q Did you talk to him again after that?

A I did.

Q And when was that?

A What's today -- today is Thursday, I came up yesterday -- Monday.

Q This last Monday?

A Yes, this Monday, this week.

Q Would that be the 13th?

A Yeah.

Q What was the conversation that day?

A I said that I was going up and that I was going to tell the truth and he said, "I've got a lawyer" or "We'll have one tonight."

I said, "I can't wait much longer, I am going up."

Q I couldn't hear that because of the truck.

A I said that he said that he had a lawyer, he would know who it was and meet with him then. And I said you better hurry because I'm going up tonight -- not tonight, beg your pardon, the next day.

Q Did he say whether he had talked to the

Senator?

A I think he did talk to him by phone.

Q And what did the Senator tell him?

A The Senator said, according to Willis,  
that nothing to worry about, take it easy.

Q Did you try and contact Senator Partee?

A Yes, I did.

Q And when was that?

A Tuesday, came up yesterday, so, it was  
Tuesday.

Q The 14th of May?

A Yes, yeah.

Q How did you try and contact the Senator?

A Well, a friend of mine worked for him a  
man named Park. So, I called him and he said  
that they are in session and he said that he would  
get a message to the Senator and get back in touch  
with me.

Q Mr. Park, P-a-r-k?

A P-a-r-k.

Q What's his first name?

A His first name is Don.

Q And he is employed by Senator Partee?

A Right.

1 Q Did the Senator get back to you?

2 A No, Mr. Park got back to me and gave me  
3 a telephone number to call and a name.

4 Q What was the name?

5 A Attorney in Chicago, Mat Walsh.

6 Q What did Mr. Park say?

7 A "The Senator gave me this number to give you,  
8 call this man before 10:00 at night."

9 Q Did Mr. Park tell you what to say to the  
10 Grand Jury today?

11 A No.

12 Q He didn't ask you to play along or --

13 A No, he seemed to think that the lawyer  
14 would give me the information when I called to talk  
15 to him how to proceed.

16 Q Had you told Mr. Park that you were going to  
17 tell the truth up here?

18 A Yes.

19 Q All right. Did you call that attorney?

20 A Yes, I did. I spoke to him and identified  
21 myself and I said "I've got to go early in the morning"  
22 I said "I just wanted you to know, Willis lawyer, I  
23 assume you are going to be Willis lawyer", and I believe  
24 he said "Yes", I am not certain "that I was going to

tell the truth."

Q What did he say?

A He said, "Well, if that's the way you feel about it", I said, "I'll try not to mention the Senator's name but I don't see how it can be helped."

He said, "All right, go ahead, do what you want."

Q Has anybody contacted you at all yesterday or today?

A No. None of Mr. Pardee and also, Robert

Q Did Mr. Willis ever mention to you that Mr. Hall knew that he had changed the Daley test?

A No, he didn't.

Q Now, when did you leave the Department of Insurance? ... I tried to ...

A Friday, May 13, 1973 -- April 13th, April.

Q Did you contact Senator Pardee and attempt to get a position in State Government?

A No, I did not. He already helped Mr. Willis, so, I thought he'd done his share.

Q Who did you contact?

A Well, I contacted several people.

Q Who were they?

A One of which is a friend of mine, Mr. Shea,



Representative Shea.

Q How do you spell that.

A S-h-e-a, I think it is.

Q Did you tell Mr. Shea you had changed the test?

A No, he never asked me, I don't think Jerry knew what I did up there.

Q Who else did you approach and attempt to get a position?

A A friend of Mr. Shea's and mine,

*Ron Cone*  
~~who~~ who is a private attorney.

Q Spell his name.

A C-o-n-e.

Q Anyone else?

A I'm sure there were others, I tried a lot of places but I can't think of any specific names.

Q Did you tell any of them about the test?

A Tell what?

Q Did you tell any of them about the Daley test?

A Not at that time, not until it came up later.

Q All right. Who did you tell later?

A Ron Cone who is a friend of mine as well as an attorney.

1 Q Anyone else?

2 A No, I don't believe so, to my knowledge.

3 Q You know if Mr. Ron Cone told anyone about  
4 it?

5 A No, he didn't.

6 Q Did Mr. Willis ever mention that John Patrick  
7 Daley's test to you?

8 A No, that had occurred about a year or two  
9 before that, didn't it? I'm not sure about my dates,  
10 I wasn't in that particular division, at that time.

11 Q They never mentioned it to you at all?

12 A Not that I recall.

13 Q Other than the Senator Partee's staff did  
14 anyone else try to contact you about your testimony,  
15 about you testifying here the first time?

16 A No; no, I'm sure they didn't, can't think of  
17 anybody.

18 Q Anybody try and contact you from March 20th  
19 until today other than Senator Partee?

20 A Newspapers,

21 Q Anyone else in State Government?

22 A No.

23 Q Did Mr. Willis ever mention whether William  
24 Daley had asked Partee for help on the test?

1 A He never mentioned it.

2 Q Did Mr. Willis ever say that he got his job  
3 because of what he did on the test?

4 A No, he didn't -- you mean his present job --  
5 no, I'm sure he felt that it helped.

6 MR. IAVARONE: Any members of the Grand Jury  
7 have any questions?

8 A JUROR: Mr. Casper, you said that you thought  
9 it was all right to help Mr. Willis change the test  
10 because you knew it had been done other times.

11 A I felt that it had been done many times.

12 A JUROR: Can you tell us of any other specific  
13 occasions that you knew that had been done?

14 A No, I can't be that specific. After being  
15 there six years you get kind of a feel about it and  
16 everything was too secret between the bosses, one  
17 hand didn't know what the other was doing. I always  
18 felt that that had been going on for some time.

19 A JUROR: Do you ever know of any occasions or  
20 have you ever been told of any occasions when Ann  
21 Shotts had possibly changed a test for someone or  
22 helped them pass?

23 A No, I don't know of any specific occasions.

24 A JUROR: Had you heard rumors to this?

1 A Heard rumors all the time in that field,  
2 any kind of examination at all there's always  
3 rumors that somebody's getting something for  
4 nothing or getting passed when he shouldn't.  
5 There's always rumors.

6 A JUROR: Mr. Casper, during your years of  
7 testing is this the only occasion you have let  
8 someone come in to fix a test paper?

9 A Yes, it has but let me correct you, I didn't  
10 grade papers very long. I was put in there, one  
11 man died and then they promoted Mr. Willis, so, I  
12 kind of ran it.

13 A JUROR: And you did it because Willis was a  
14 friend of yours?

15 A Yes, really, I felt he gotten a bad deal.

16 MR. IAVARONE: Q What was your relationship  
17 with Mr. Hall?

18 A Not too friendly.

19 Q Why was that?

20 A Well, I don't know, we just didn't seem to  
21 get along too good.

22 Q Did Mr. Hall ever tell you you were doing a  
23 poor job?

24 A About every year when he fills out these

reports he makes some remarks to that extent, yeah. He kept me from getting two, three raises that are supposed to be automatic.

Q What was Mr. Willis relationship with Mr. Hall?

A They were very friendly.

Q Did Mr. Willis ever mention to you Mr. Hall was making \$50.00 payments to him?

A No.

Q How was Mr. Preer's relationship with Mr. Hall?

A All right, friendly enough.

Q Mr. Willis and Mr. Preer friendly?

A Yes, they traveled together a great deal of the time.

Q You know if Mr. Preer ever changed a test?

A I don't know that he ever did, I have no reason to believe that he ever did.

Q Do you know an individual by the name of Vaccarrello?

A Yes.

Q He was in the Department of Insurance?

A Yes, he came in, I think, shortly after the Ogilvie administration.

Q Did Mr. Willis know Mr. Vaccarrello?



1 A Mr. Willis had come shortly before Vaccarrello.  
2 but he knew him, of course. In fact they seemed to  
3 get along pretty well.

4 Q You know if Mr. Willis ever received any phone  
5 calls or messages from Mr. Vaccarrello regarding tests?

6 A I'm sure he did because at the time they had  
7 numerous problems, mostly in Cook County, with some  
8 newer companies and they had to make arrangements  
9 for special examination for some of these people. So,  
10 naturally Willis was running the examination unit at  
11 that time. So, Mr. Vaccarrello and Mr. Hall both  
12 talked to him a lot about planning this.

13 Q You know if they talked about specific tests?

14 A You mean specific individuals?

15 Q Yes.

16 A I don't believe so. I think it was more  
17 general, maybe six people, ten people, twelve people  
18 at a time.

19 Q Would they take those tests, have the six  
20 or ten people into Mr. Hall's office?

21 A Yeah, sometimes they did.

22 Q You know for what purpose?

23 A Well, these people had a training program  
24 and I think it was Mr. Huber, well Mr. Huber after

25

1 Vaccarrello have gone, that he came, they took  
2 these to check to see if these men had learned  
3 anything. There were young people off the streets  
4 who never had any formal business training and they  
5 did check those companies, they were usually agency  
6 examinations and they checked those pretty thorough.

7 Q As a matter of fact Mr. Willis was wined and  
8 dined by these people, wasn't he?

9 A Yes. I did go in with the lists

10 Q How often? To write letters to them.

11 A Well, on a period of a year or so so many of  
12 the big life companies went in the fire and casualty  
13 company -- Prudential has 1,000 agents or better in  
14 Illinois, we have no facilities to give the examin-  
15 ations for that many people, so, these companies  
16 with their own office buildings, amphitheaters or  
17 examination centers or something, space to give the  
18 examination. So, all expenses created was paid by  
19 the company to the department. In other words, they  
20 paid Willis' room and board and meals and travel  
21 expenses rather than having the State do it in return  
22 for a special examination.

23 Q Did anybody ever ask you for a campaign  
24 contribution while you were with the Department of

Insurance?

A Not personally, no.

Q Did anybody ever ask you for a list of brokers and agents for campaign purposes?

A Yes, Mr. Huber asked me to make up a list of some of the more prominent brokers and agents in the mid-state area, Springfield, Bloomington, Decatur.

Q And what did you do with the list?

A He was going to write letters to them, soliciting funds.

Q Did he?

A That I don't know.

Q Did he ever ask you to solicit funds from those people?

A No, he didn't.

Q Did Mr. Tickner ever ask you to raise money?

A No.

Q Was Mr. Hall well known among the State Legislators?

A Well, he got to be well known because head of the License Division the State Legislators constantly calling on behalf of one of their constituents and asking to help, within reason, to what we could help

1 then, a man get a license and so forth. Naturally  
2 phone calls, particularly when the legislature was  
3 in session, got a lot of phone calls.

4 Q Do you know if Mr. Willis, since March 16,  
5 1973, ever asked anyone else in the department to  
6 help someone on a test?

7 A Not that I know of, you know, after he left,  
8 did he ask anybody? Whether he ask Mr. Hall or Mr.

9 Q Yes.

10 A Not that I know of.

11 Q How about before you left?

12 A Well, I don't know of any then either.

13 MR. IAVARONE: Any questions?

14 A JUROR: I'm only interested in knowing how  
15 is it, what is it in terms of what you know, Senator  
16 Partee would do anything on behalf of William Daley,  
17 what is the relationship?

18 A That is something I can't answer, I don't  
19 know, I don't know. I mean, could have been say  
20 Sam Jones' paper, maybe, but happened to be Mr.  
21 Daley's paper.

22 A JUROR: Was that the only paper that had any-  
23 thing done that day to it, was the Daley test, sir?

24 A I don't have any others, no.

MR. IAVARONE: Q Now, do you know if Mr. Willis called up Mr. Preer to see if he had the Daley test?

A That I don't know, no. He called me and I had the morning papers, I don't know why I had them, I could have had the afternoon, but I didn't, I had the morning papers.

Q Did Mr. Hall ask you for the Daley test?

A I don't know whether it was Mr. Hall or Mr. Huber, one of the two did. I think it was Huber.

Q Did you give him the test?

A Yes.

Q Did they say anything to you?

A No, gave it back and said okay.

Q And when was this?

A After the -- well, after the newspaper article about Hell & Hell Agency, whenever that was.

Q They didn't mention to you any different handwriting?

A Didn't say a word.

Q And this was in '73?

A Yeah.

Q And did you know if Mr. Hall looked at the test, at that time?

A I -- I'm not positive but I feel that he did